Macmillan Collector’s Library
Winter 2017
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The art of telling a ghost story is a refined one and Montague Rhodes James was a master of it. With gentle cunning, he draws the reader into a narrative that at first seems innocuous but which by gentle turns becomes darker and darker until he transfixes you with his prose, creating the most unforgettable, alarming and frightening images. This volume contains all his timeless masterpieces from the four collections of his eerie tales: *Ghost Stories of an Antiquary* (1904), *More Ghost Stories of an Antiquary* (1911), *A Thin Ghost and Others* (1919), *A Warning to the Curious and Other Ghost Stories* (1925)."

With an Afterword by David Stuart Davies.

Montague Rhodes James was born in 1862 at Goodnestone Parsonage, Kent. James attended Eton College and later King's College Cambridge. A distinguished medievalist and scholar of international status, James published many works on biblical and historical antiquarian subjects. His ghost story writing began almost as a divertissement from his academic work and as a form of entertainment for his colleagues. He never married and died in 1936.

David Stuart Davies is an author, playwright and editor. His fiction includes his wartime detective Johnny Hawke. He is a committee member of the Crime Writers' Association, editing their monthly publication, *Red Herrings*, and is a Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund.
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This is one of the most significant literary works of the 20th century, and one of the most innovative. Young Irish Catholic, Stephen Dedalus, rejects religion and national ties to develop unfettered as an artist. Strongly autobiographical, the novel is one of the founding texts of Modernism and the precursor of Ulysses. Its originality shocked contemporary readers on its publication in 1916, who found its treating of the minutiae of daily life indecorous, and its central character unappealing.

With an Afterword by Peter Harness.

James Joyce was born in Dublin in 1882. He came from a reasonably wealthy family which, largely because of the recklessness of Joyce's father, was plunged into financial hardship. The young Joyce attended Clongowes College, Belvedere College and, eventually, University College, Dublin. In 1904 he met Nora Barnacle, and eloped with her to Croatia. From this point until the end of his life, Joyce lived as an exile, moving from Trieste to Rome, and then to Zurich and Paris. His major works are Dubliners (1914), A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man (1916), Ulysses (1922) and Finnegans Wake (1939). He died in 1941, by which time he had come to be regarded as one of the greatest novelists the world ever produced.
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Crime and Punishment is the story of a brutal double murder and its aftermath. Raskolnikov, a poor student, kills a pawnbroker and her sister, and then has to face up to the moral consequences of his actions. The novel is compelling and rewarding, full of meaning and symbolism, and raises profound questions about the individual and society, and the nature of free will.

Translated by Constance Garnett, with an Afterword by Oliver Francis.

Fyodor Dostoevsky was born in Moscow in 1821. His first work of fiction was the novel Poor Folk (1846), which met with a generally favorable response, but his immediately subsequent works were less enthusiastically received. In 1849 Dostoevsky was arrested as a member of the socialist Petrashevsky circle, and subjected to a mock execution. He suffered four years in a Siberian penal settlement and then another four years of enforced military service. During the last twenty years of his life he wrote his iconic works, such as Notes from the Underground (1864), Crime and Punishment (1866), The Idiot (1868) and The Brothers Karamazov (1880), which formed the basis of his formidable reputation. He died in 1881.
A pocket, gift edition of H. G. Wells' science fiction classic

'He succeeds in placing before the reader a vision of the world in cosmic time' Norman Nicholson

The Time Traveller knew that Time was only a kind of Space. The fantastic story of his adventures in a machine which could travel in any direction of Space and Time has captured the imagination of millions.

H. G. Wells, one of the giants of twentieth-century literature, in this brilliant forerunner of today's SF did something which had never been done before and which has never been done since with the same vitality and bright inventiveness. With an introduction by Mark Bould.

Herbert George Wells was born in Kent in 1866, the son of a shop keeper and a lady's maid. His education was interrupted when he served a brief and grueling apprenticeship to a draper. He then went on to study biology under the great T. H. Huxley. He found instant literary success with the publication of his first 'scientific romance', *The Time Machine* in 1895 followed by *The Island of Dr Moreau* in 1896 and *The War of the Worlds* in 1898. A lifelong socialist and visionary, he also wrote extensively on social issues, history and science. He died in 1946.

Dr Mark Bould is reader in Film and Literature at the University of the West of England has written extensively on Science Fiction.
The classic invasion novel by H. G. Wells

The most famous example of invasion literature and first published in 1898, The War of the Worlds has inspired countless science fiction stories and novels. After a dramatic series of shooting stars are seen tearing across the night sky, a gigantic cylinder descends from Mars and lands near London. Inquisitive locals gather round only to be struck down by a murderous heat-ray. Giant destructive machines climb out the crater formed by the cylinder destroying everything in their path on a merciless march towards London. Can humanity survive this onslaught? A gripping adventure written in semi-documentary style filled with scenes of flight, despair and panic this is also a very human story about pride, fear and the promise of recovery.

With a new introduction by author James Blaylock.

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James Blaylock, a literary pioneer of Steampunk, is a prolific and successful author. He lives and works in California where he also teaches creative writing.

Lilly Bart is twenty-nine, beautiful and charming. She has expensive tastes, loves to gamble and socializes with the immensely wealthy upper-class families of New York. But her meager finances are dwindling. Given the restrictions imposed by society, her only hope of financial security is to find a suitable husband. However, Lilly has an independence of spirit which stands in the way of her committing to the suitors available to her. As her options diminish, her friends become her enemies and her situation grows increasing perilous.

Through the prism of Lilly's life, Edith Wharton has written a witty and piercingly insightful dark satire about the over privileged and morally dubious society of early twentieth-century New York.

With a new introduction by author Danuta Reah.

Edith Wharton was born in 1862 to a prominent and wealthy New York family. In 1885 she married a Boston socialite; the couple travelled frequently and settled in France in 1907, but the marriage was unhappy and they divorced in 1913. On her trips to Europe Wharton became a close friend of the novelist Henry James. Her first major novel was The House of Mirth (1905); many short stories, travel books, memoirs and novels followed, including Ethan Frome (1911), The Reef (1912) and The Age of Innocence (1920). Wharton was decorated for her humanitarian work during the First World War. She died in France in 1937.

Danuta Reah is a novelist and an academic who works in the field of English language and linguistics.
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'When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.'
Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

London: An Illustrated Literary Companion, compiled by Rosemary Gray, captures the varying moods of the great city of London over recent centuries, through diary entries, with quotations, poems, essays and extracts from great works written in its honor. It is beautifully illustrated with drawings and engravings from distinguished artists, including Gustave Doré, George Cruikshank, James McNeill Whistler and Hugh Thomson as well as contemporary prints and photographs.

'I don't know what London's coming to - the higher the buildings the lower the morals.' Noël Coward (1899-1973)

Rosemary Gray, who has worked in publishing for many years, has edited a number of collections of short stories, poems and quotations. She is the joint compiler of Limericks in the Collector’s Library, The Collector’s Library Everlasting Diary and Alice in Wonderland Everlasting Diary.
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In *The Origin of Species* Darwin outlined his theory of evolution, which proposed that species had been evolving and differentiating over time under the influence of natural selection. On its publication it became hugely influential, bringing about a seismic shift in the scientific view of humanity's place in the world that is still controversial today. It is both a brilliant work of science and also a clear, vivid and at times even moving, piece of writing that reflects both Darwin's genius and his boundless enthusiasm for the natural world.

With an Afterword by Oliver Francis

Charles Darwin was born in 1809. He studied medicine at Edinburgh University for two years before going to Christ's College Cambridge. From 1831 to 1836 he sailed on the survey ship HMS Beagle, and the subsequent *Journal of the Voyages of the Beagle* brought him some repute as a popular author. In 1859 Darwin published *The Origin of Species*, which went through six editions, each noticeably revised. He first fully applied his ideas of evolution to the human species in *The Descent of Man and Selection in Relation to Sex* (1871). He also published on subjects such as botany, ecology, and the expression of emotion in animals and man. Darwin died in 1882. He was buried, after some controversy, in Westminster Abbey.
Frankenstein is the most famous novel by Mary Shelley: a dark Faustian parable of science misused that was an immediate success on its publication in 1818. Victor Frankenstein, a brilliant but wayward scientist, builds a human from dead flesh and then, horrified at what he has done, abandons his creation. The creature, an outcast because of his appearance, learns language and becomes civilized, but when rejected by society seeks revenge on his creator. So begins a cycle of destruction in which Frankenstein and his ‘monster’ lose all vestiges of their humanity in monomaniacal hatred.

With an Afterword by David Pinching.

Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin was born in 1797, the daughter of two leading radical writers of the age. Her mother died just days after her birth and she was educated at home by her father and encouraged in literary pursuits. She eloped with the Romantic poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, but their life together was full of hardship. The couple were ruined by disapproving parents and Mary lost three of her four children. Although its subject matter was extremely dark, her first novel Frankenstein (1818) was an instant sensation. Subsequent works such as Mathilda (1819), Valperga (1823) and The Last Man (1826) were less successful but are now finally receiving the critical acclaim that they deserve.
Mary Lennox is sent from an India as an orphan to live at Misselthwaite Manor. She arrives as a sour-faced, sickly and ill-tempered little madam but becomes friends with local lad Dickon and her poorly cousin Colin. In their restoration of a secret garden all their lives are changed for the better.

With an Afterword by Anna South.

Frances Hodgson Burnett was born in Manchester, England, in 1849, the third of five children. When her father died in 1853 the family was plunged into poverty, and the young Fanny began writing to escape the grim realities of life. In 1865 the family moved to America where she met her future husband, Dr Swann Burnett. Her book Little Lord Fauntleroy was published in 1886 and was an instant success, launching a career that would produce over forty books. It was followed by the publication of A Little Princess in book form in 1905 and The Secret Garden in 1911. Frances Hodgson Burnett died in 1924.
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Timeless in its evocation of idealized family life and robustly enduring, *Little Women* is recognized as one of the best-loved classic children's stories of all time. Originally written as a 'girls' story', its appeal transcends the boundaries of time and age, making it as popular with adults as it is with young readers.

With an Afterword by Anna South.

Louisa May Alcott was born in Pennsylvania in 1832, the second of four daughters of the philosopher Bronson Alcott. She was educated at home and went on to become a schoolteacher in Boston. Her first book *Flower Fables* was published when she was twenty-two, but she interrupted her career as a writer to nurse soldiers at a Washington hospital during the civil war. Her most enduring book, *Little Women*, was published in 1868 and was an instant success. Other books include *Little Men* and *Jo's Boys*. Louisa May Alcott died in 1888 at the age of 56.
Leo Tolstoy

Anna Karenina

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The sweeping love story of two people who defy the conventions of their age to follow the dictates of their hearts. Trapped in a stifling marriage, Anna Karenina is swept off her feet by the dashing Count Vronsky. When the truth about their passionate liaison comes out, Anna's husband is more concerned with keeping up appearances than anything else, but at last he seeks a reluctant divorce. Rejected by society, the two lovers flee to Italy, where Anna finds herself isolated from all except the man she loves, and who loves her. But can they live by love alone? In this novel of astonishing scope and grandeur, Leo Tolstoy, the great master of Russian literature, charts the course of the human heart.

Translated by Aylmer & Louise Maude, with an Afterword by Ned Halley.

Count Lev (Leo) Nikolaevich Tolstoy was born at Vasnaya Polyana in the Russian province of Tula in 1828. He inherited the family title aged 19, quit university and after a period, joined the army, where he started to write. Travels in Europe opened him to western ideas, and he returned to his family estates to live as a benign landowner. In 1862 he married Sofia Behr, who bore him 13 children. He expressed his increasingly subversive views through prolific work that culminated in the immortal novels of his middle years, War and Peace and Anna Karenina. Beloved in Russia and with a worldwide following, but feared by the Tsarist state and excommunicated by the Russian Orthodox church, he died in 1910.
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On its first publication *The Picture of Dorian Gray* was regarded as dangerously modern in its depiction of fin-de-siècle decadence. In this updated version of the Faust story, the tempter is Lord Henry Wotton, who lives selfishly for amoral pleasure; Dorian's good angel is the portrait painter Basil Hallward, whom Dorian murders. The book highlights the tension between the polished surface of high society and the life of secret vice. Although sin is punished in the end the book has a flavour of the elegantly perverse.

With an Afterword by Peter Harness.

Oscar Fingal O'Flaherty Wills Wilde was born in Dublin in 1854. He studied at Trinity College Dublin and then at Magdalen College Oxford where he started the cult of 'Aestheticism'. He published several books of stories ostensibly for children and one novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (1891).

Wilde's first success as a playwright was with *Lady Windemere's Fan* in 1892. He followed this with *A Woman of No Importance, An Ideal Husband* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, all performed on the London stage. Wilde lost a libel suit against the man who exposed his homosexual relationship and was sentenced to two year's imprisonment. He fled to France after his release where he died in 1900.
The Importance of Being Earnest & Other Plays

Part of the stunning Macmillan Collector's Library

The four great comedies of Oscar Wilde, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *A Woman of No Importance*, *An Ideal Husband* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*, were all written at the height of the controversial Irish author's powers in his last, doomed decade, the 1890s. They remain among the most-loved, and most-quoted, of all drama in the English language. Along with *Salome*, his darkly decadent dramatization of the Bible story, these immortal plays have continued to pack theatres to this day, and have been adapted for every kind of media. The plays were originally published in book form at Wilde's own insistence, the better to spread his genius wide.

Illustrated by Aubrey Beardsley, with an afterword by Ned Halley.

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Around the World in Eighty Days (Le tour du monde en quatre-vingt jours) is a classic. The story starts in London on 2 October 1872. Phileas Fogg is a wealthy, solitary man with regular habits, who fires his former butler for getting wrong the temperature of his shaving water. He hires Passepartout as a replacement. Later that day he gets involved in an argument over an article in the Daily Telegraph, stating that with the opening of a new railway in India, it is now possible to travel around the world in eighty days. The exciting, if now dated, adventure of Fogg and Passepartout will entertain modern readers as much as it did the Victorians.

With an Afterword by John Grant

Jules Gabriel Verne was born in Nantes, France, in 1828 and was destined to follow his father into the legal profession. In Paris to train for the bar, he took to literary life, befriending Alexander Dumas and Victor Hugo, and lived by theatre managing and libretto-writing. His first novel, Five Weeks in a Balloon, was issued by the influential publisher Pierre-Jules Hetzel in 1862, and made him famous. Verne and Hetzel collaborated to write dozens more such adventures, including 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea and Around the World in 80 Days. In later life Verne entered local politics at Amiens, where he had a home. He also kept a house in Paris, on the street now named Boulevard Jules Verne. He died in 1905.
Science and adventure are electrifying accomplices in Jules Verne's classic *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*. This epic and enduring tale anticipates not just wonders such as electric light and submarine navigation, but the obsession with technology and travel that today so shapes our lives. It is Verne's inspired foresight, combined with his extraordinary talent for storytelling, that continue to make this novel such a compelling read. The excitement this adventure caused around the world when it was first published 150 years ago can still be very easily imagined indeed in the 21st century.

Illustrated by Edouard Riou, with an Afterword by David Stuart Davies.

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"Fictional trips to the underground are a feature of all mythologies, but the best of the nineteenth-century tales is that of Verne." Isaac Asimov, 1966.

A Journey to the Centre of the Earth is an 1864 classic by Jules Verne. It tells of German professor Otto Lidenbrock who believes there are volcanic tubes going toward the centre of the Earth. He, his nephew Axel, and their guide Hans descend into the Icelandic volcano Snæfellsjökull, encountering many adventures, including prehistoric animals and natural hazards, before eventually coming to the surface again in southern Italy, at the Stromboli volcano.

This Macmillan Collector's Library edition features illustrations by Édouard Riou (1833-1900), a French painter and illustrator who illustrated six novels by Jules Verne, and an afterword by Ned Halley.

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The orphaned Jane Eyre suffers under cruel guardians, a harsh employer and a rigid social order. But her plain appearance belies her indomitable spirit, sharp wit and great courage. When she goes to Thornfield Hall to work as a governess for the mysterious Mr Rochester the stage is set for one of literature's great romances.

With an Afterword by Sam Gilpin

Charlotte Brontë was born in Yorkshire in 1816. She was the third of six children, two years older than Emily, and four years older than Anne. After schooling she worked as a governess, and then taught in Brussels. In 1846 she returned to England and published poems by her and her younger sisters, under the pseudonyms, Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell. In 1847 she completed Jane Eyre, which was published to considerable acclaim. Both her younger sisters also wrote novels. Emily wrote Wuthering Heights, and Anne penned Agnes Grey and The Tenant of Wildfell Hall. Charlotte married in 1854 and died in 1855.
Wuthering Heights tells the story of a romance between two youngsters: Catherine Earnshaw and an orphan boy, Heathcliff. After she rejects him for a boy from a better background he develops a lust for revenge that takes over his life. In attempting to win her back and destroy those he blames for his loss Heathcliff creates a living hell for those who live at Wuthering Heights. This tale of hauntings, passion and greed remains unsurpassed in its depiction of the dark side of love.

With an Afterword by David Pinching

Emily Brontë was born in 1818, the daughter of a curate. She was the most enigmatic of the three famous novelist sisters. Losing her mother very early in her life and following her elder sister Charlotte to school, she found life away from the Haworth parsonage extremely hard. Her time as a teacher at Law Hill School near Halifax was similarly trying. Homesickness drew her back to the moors and the life of a reclusive author. It was there, in 1848, that she died of tuberculosis just months after her brother Branwell. Few of her papers survive and her reputation is based on a few surviving poems and one novel, Wuthering Heights.
Oscar Wilde's way with words is given full range in this collection of short stories written between 1887 and 1891. There are ghost stories, moral tales, detective fiction and fairy stories. From the comically unsuccessful ghost in 'The Canterville Ghost' to the incompetent would-be murderer in 'Lord Arthur Saville's Crime' we are treated to the extravagance and dexterity of Wilde's wit. Particularly in the fairy stories we see the brilliance of Wilde's vision of society and human action, as each tale has both beauty and simplicity while exploring complex moral issues. These stories appeal to both child and adult with themes of Love, Truth and Sacrifice which are as relevant today as they were when they were written.

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David Stuart Davies is an author, playwright and editor. He is a committee member of the Crime Writers' Association, editing their monthly publication, Red Herrings, and is a Fellow of the Royal Literary Fund.
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